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them in the streets, and in the courts of the public buildings, till hands were wanted for the labor; they were laid before the churches, heaped upon one another, and covered with sheets; and, that no spectacle of horror might be wanting, it happened not unfrequently, that these piles of mortality were struck by a shell, and the shattered bodies scattered in all directions. When the French entered the city, *six thousand bodies* were lying in the streets and trenches, or piled up in heaps before the churches."

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#### PRACTICAL WORKINGS OF THE WAR-SYSTEM.

**RIGHTS OF BLOCKADE.**—A nation in war claims the right of blockading the ports of its enemy to the exclusion, without indemnification, of all other nations from any intercourse whatever with them. A single individual in the great community of nations, thus asserts the right to control and to injure the rest for its own selfish or vindictive purposes; and all this it does without consent, consultation, or the least thought of reparation.

We will not now inquire into the correctness of this theory, nor ask whether the civilized world, if duly enlightened, would submit to such an outrage upon their rights; we merely invite attention to the wide extent and vast amount of mischief occasioned by the actual application of this war-principle.

*French Blockade of Mexico.*—In 1839, France, in asserting her claim to an indemnity of about \$600,000, blockaded the principal port of Mexico, and thus injured the merchants of England alone to such an extent, that the Duke of Wellington advised them to pay the whole demand from their own pockets. This advice went, of course, upon the assumption, that the blockade, if continued, would injure them to a still greater amount; and, if so, how incalculable must have been the injury to the whole circle of nations interested in the Mexican trade! Yet the savage laws of war allowed France, for the sake of \$600,000, claimed with scarce a shadow of right, to inflict upon other nations a loss of millions on millions.

*Blockade of Chinese Ports.*—England, in the prosecution of her infamous war against China, claims the right, by blockading her ports, to exclude the whole world from her trade. How much this exclusion will cost them all, we can neither estimate nor safely conjecture; but *some*

idea of the mischief may be drawn from the tax which it imposes on ourselves alone in the single article of tea. We find it stated in the papers, that two or three merchants in Salem, Mass., had realized a million dollars, or more, from the rise of tea in the market; and it would probably be a very low estimate to suppose, that the war in China will thus cost the United States alone \$10,000,000 every year of its continuance.

*The principle applied.*—Here is a fair sample of war in its mildest form; and we should like to see the principle put to the test of common sense in social life. Should a person insult us, would it be right, in seeking redress or revenge, to inflict an injury ten-fold greater upon an innocent community? Should our neighbor refuse to pay us a debt of ten dollars, might we, with impunity, destroy the property of others to the amount of tens and hundreds of thousands? Yet this is war; nor can it be carried on without a vast amount of mischief to the entire brotherhood of nations.

*Superiority of pacific measures.*—Take the lowest estimate of loss to ourselves alone from the Chinese war in one year on the single article of tea; and the bare interest at six per cent. on \$10,000,000 would be \$600,000, one quarter of which, if judiciously expended, during the last twenty-five years in diffusing pacific principles, would doubtless have prevented not only that war, but a multitude of other minor wars, like those in Spain and Portugal, in South America, Mexico and Florida. One hundred and twenty-five thousand dollars a year, rightly applied in the exertion of a kind moral influence through Christendom, would in a few years have effectually crippled this monster, and eventually put an end to his reign of blood and misery. It is fifty times as much as has been annually expended in the cause of peace since its commencement in 1815. The interest at six per cent. on the \$40,000,000 supposed to have been already wasted in the Florida war, would be \$2,400,000; the interest upon this interest would be \$144,000; the interest upon this alone would be \$8,640;—nearly ten times as much as the average annual contributions in our whole country to the cause of peace from its outset among us. Had even this petty sum of \$8,640, the bare interest upon the interest of what the war in Florida has cost us, been rightly used every year in diffusing the principles of peace through the nation, that war would never have occurred.